

M. R. Srinivasan

Padma Shri (1984) - Padma Bhushan (1990) - Padma Vibhushan (2015)



(5 January 1930 – 20 May 2025)

Malur Ramasamy Srinivasan was one of India's foremost nuclear scientists and mechanical engineers. He pioneered India's **Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR)** technology and played a pivotal role in making the country self-reliant in nuclear power.

Born in Bangalore, he earned a B.E. from University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering and later completed his M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Gas Turbine Technology from McGill University.

Scientific Contributions

Foundation of India's Nuclear Program:

Joined the Department of Atomic Energy (1955) and worked with Homi J. Bhabha on Apsara, India's first nuclear research reactor.

Engineering Leadership: Led the development of India's first atomic power station and the Madras Atomic Power Station (1967).

Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR):

Led the design and deployment of PHWR technology, which became the backbone of India's nuclear power program.

Leadership: Served as Director of the Power Projects Engineering Division, Chairman of the Nuclear Power Board, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, Secretary of the Department of Atomic Energy, and founding Chairman of NPCIL.

Global Contribution: Served as Senior Adviser to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), contributing to international nuclear policy and the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Awards & Achievements

- **1984: Padma Shri** – For contributions to nuclear engineering
- **1990: Padma Bhushan** – For leadership in India's atomic energy program
- **2015: Padma Vibhushan** – India's second-highest civilian honour
- **1996: Om Prakash Bhasin Award** – For excellence in engineering and technology

Legacy

Dr. Srinivasan's legacy reflects scientific excellence, indigenous innovation, and dedicated national service. His leadership shaped India's peaceful nuclear program and inspired generations of scientists and engineers.

